

Appl. No. 09/940,371

Amdt. AF dated November 19, 2004

Reply to Advisory Action of October 6, 2004

REMARKS

The following remarks are submitted in response to the Advisory Action mailed on October 6, 2004.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 1, 2, 5-8, 10-19, 22-31, 34-37, 39-47, 50-53, 55-58, 61-73 and 164 were allowed. Additionally, the Examiner indicated that claims 87-89, 93-97, 125 and 153 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.


Applicants wish to take allowance of the claims indicated as allowable by the Examiner in this case. As such, claims 87, 125 and 153 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims and are, therefore, allowable. Dependent claims 88-89 and 93-97 all depend from now independent claim 87 and are, therefore, also allowable.

Claims 3-4, 9, 20-21, 32-33, 38, 49, 54, 59-60, 74-86, 90-92, 98-124, 126-152, 154-163, and 165 are cancelled without prejudice. Therefore, the claims remaining in the case have all been indicated as allowed or allowable by the Examiner. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance in due course is respectfully requested. If a telephone conference might be of assistance, please contact the undersigned attorney at (612) 677-9050.

Respectfully submitted,

Gust H. Bardy et al.

By their Attorney,

Date: November 19, 2004

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